Indian subcontinent is likely to warm at its surface by about 1.5-2 degree Centigrade by the middle of this century and by about 2.3-3.5 degree Centigrade by the end of the century. The corresponding thermal expansion related sea-level rise is expected to be between 15 cm and 38 cm by the middle of this century and between 46 cm and 59 cm by the end of the century.

(b) and (c) In May, 2007 the Government set up "Expert Committee on Impacts of Climate Change". The Terms of Reference of the Committee are to study the impacts of anthropogenic climate change on India and to identify the measures that we may have to take in the future in relation to addressing vulnerability to anthropogenic climate change impacts and any other matter relevant to these. Three meetings of the Committee have been held.

Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change to coordinate national action for assessment, adaptation and mitigation of climate change was constituted on 6th June, 2007 to evolve a coordinated response to issues relating to climate change at the national level and provide oversight for formulation of action plans in the area of assessment, adaptation and mitigation of climate change. The Council has decided, *inter alia,* to prepare a National Action Plan on Climate Change to address the challenges of climate change.

India's benefits under provisions of Clean Development Mechanism

1449. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the
PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has benefitted from the provisions of Clean Development Mechanism initiated by Kyoto Protocol which allows developed countries to fund clean projects in developing countries;

(b) if so, whether we are mobilizing international support for continuance of Kyoto Protocol beyond 2012 which coincides with its expiry; and

(c) if so, any other international bodies' agreements in operation under which India could get financial support to reduce global emissions?

THE-MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to.(c) Under the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) of the Kyoto Protocol under United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), as on 8 March, 2008, 316 projects from India have been registered with the CDM Executive Board, which is the highest by any country so far in the world. The expected average annual Certified Emission Reductions (CERs) from these projects work out to approximately 29 million. Also as on date India has accorded Host Country Approval to 892 projects in various fields including Energy Efficiency, Fuel Switching, Industrial Process, Municipal Solid Waste, Renewables and Forestry.

As per Article 3.9 of the Kyoto Protocol, commitments for periods subsequent to 2012 for Annex-I Parties shall be established and agreed to by parties. At the Climate Change Conference at Bali in December, 2007 which was attended by representatives of over 180 countries, *inter alia* Bali Action Plan was agreed envisaging the launching of a comprehensive process to enable the full, effective, and sustained implementation of the UNFCCC through

long-term cooperative action. For this purpose an Ad Hoc Working Group was established with a timetable of meetings to complete its work by the Conference of Parties (COP)-15 of the UNFCCC to be held in Copenhagen, Denmark in 2009. Parallel to this, the Ad Hoc Working Group under the Kyoto Protocol for comitments post 2012 is also to complete its warkbytheCOP.15in2009.

Preservation of Kaziranga National Park

1450. KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) number of rhino killed at Kaziranga National Park during last four years;

(b) the measures taken to stop the rhino killing and to preserve the famous one-horn rhino;

(c) whether large area of the National Park is illegally occupied by some miscreants since a long period;

(d) whether most of the criminal activities in the Park continued with the active help of these illegal shelters; and

(e) whether Government would consider constituting high level enquiry for the various allegation in identical crisis of one-horn rhino at the Park and to tighten the security to protect and preserve the World Heritage of the Park?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) During the last four years, 34 Rhinos have been killed in Kaziranga National Park and adjacent areas.

(b) The steps taken by Government of India to protect wildlife and prevent poaching of wildlife including rhino are as under:

1. The Central Government has enacted the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to deal with the issues of wildlife crime. Stringent penalties are imposed on the offenders for the contravention of the provisions of the Act.
2. A network of National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries has been set up across the country to protect wildlife.
3. Wildlife Crime Control Bureau, with a network a five Regional and three Sub Regional Offices, has been set up to control wildlife crimes.
4. Financial support is being provided under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes—*Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries, Project Tiger* and *Project Elephant,* to State/UT Governments for the conservation and development of wildlife and its habitats including those of Rhinos.
5. India is a signatory to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) that regulates international trade in wildlife and its derivatives.